Consequences of Inflationary Trends

*213. SHRI JAG MOHAN:
SHRI JOYANTA ROY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that eminent economists have warned Government about the serious consequences of inflationary trends that have set in the economy, which may rise to as much as 30 per cent in case the monsoon fails or oil prices rise; and

(b) what remedial measures are being contemplated by Government toward off the threat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has seen a newspaper report of 26th February, 1995 which carried a statement by a group of economists claiming that the inflation rate had crossed double digit level inspite of six good monsoons.

(b) A number of steps of demand and supply management have been taken by the Government to contain the renewed inflationary pressures. A ceiling has been placed on the Central Government's borrowing from the RBI through the issue of ad hoc Treasury Bills. Cash Reserve ratio (CRR) was raised from 14 to 15%. CRR was imposed on FCNR (Banks) and Non-Resident/Non-Repatriable Accounts. Interest rate on Non-Resident External rupee accounts was reduced. The FCNR (A) Scheme was eliminated in a phased manner. RBI also conducted open market sales of Government securities to mop up the excess liquidity. In February 1995, the maximum interest rate on commercial bank deposits was increased from 10 to 11 per cent. Open market sales of nearly 3.4 million tonnes of wheat and about 3 lakh tonnes of rice were conducted as part of the price stabilisation policy. As a result, the price of wheat remained stable throughout 1994-95. Sugar imports were placed on OGL at nil duty and 10 lakh tonnes of sugar were imported on Government account for distribution through FDS. thus bringing down the price of sugar substantially since May 1994. To moderate the increase in edible oil prices, import of palmolein oil was placed on OGL. for FDS 1.07 lakh tonnes of palmolein oil was imported on public account, with effect from March 1995, all major oils except coconut oil have been placed on OGL on reduced duty of 30%. Raw cotton imports were placed on OGL at zero duty to supplement the shortfall in domestic production of cotton. The 1995-96 Budget contains proposals for substantial reduction in tariffs which should further reduce the upward pressure on prices.

क्रेडिट कार्डों का दुरुपयोग

*214. श्री ईश दत्त यादव:
श्री आस मोहम्मद:

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) किन-किन बैंकों ने "क्रेडिट कार्ड" प्रणाली शुरू की है और क्रेडिट कार्ड धारकों की बैंकवार संख्या कितनी है;

(ख) क्या सरकार को गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान क्रेडिट कार्डों के दुरुपयोग के बारे में शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई हैं; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्रेडिट कार्डों का दुरुपयोग करने वाले व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई है?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम. वी. चन्द्रशेखर मूर्ति): (क) नवीनतम उपलब्ध सूचना के अनुसार, क्रेडिट कार्ड जारी करने वाले बैंकों के नाम और क्रेडिट कार्ड धारकों (बैंकवार) की संख्या निम्नलिखित है:-

बैंक का नाम	क्रेडिट कार्ड धारकोंकी संख्या		की स्थिति
सेन्ट्रल बैंक आफ इंडिया	88,363		31.12.94
बैंक आफ बड़ौदा	1,63,986		31.12.94
बैंक आफ इंडिया	33,674		30.09.94
विजया बैंक	43,088		31.12.94
आन्ध्र बैंक	79,718		31.12.94
केनरा बैंक	2,18,626		31.12.94
सिटी बैंक	3,92,331		30.09.94
एएनजेड ग्रिंडलेज बैंक	41,276		30.09.94
हांगकांग बैंक	20,886		30.09.94
स्टैण्डर्ड चार्टर्ड बैंक	25,933		30.09.94
अमेरिकन एक्सप्रेस बैंक	12,000	(लगभग)	30.09.94

इसके अलावा, कुछ और बैंक भी अन्य बैंकों के साथ मिलकर (टाइ अप व्यवस्था) इस कारोबार को कर रहे हैं।

(ख) और (ग) दुरुपयोग के मामले में कार्ड धारक सामान्यत: स्वयं बैंक को शिकायत करते हैं। बैंक कार्ड के धोखाधडी पूर्ण उपयोग के मामले में, बैंक मामलों को पुलिस के साथ उठाता है और वसूली की प्रक्रिया करता है। कार्ड के खो जाने/चोरी हो जाने पर, कार्ड धारक को तत्काल बैंक को सूचित करना होता है। संबन्धित बैंक द्वारा अपने सभी सदस्य स्थापनाओं को जारी किए जाने वाले चेतावनी बुलेटिन में कार्ड को दर्ज किया जाता है।

Pilots of IA and AI to join Private Air Taxi Operators

*215. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR
SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lately a large number of Pilots, Co-pilots and Commanders of Indian Airlines and Air India had put in their papers in their bid to join private air taxi operators;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to handle the situation and to overcome the problems posed by large-scale efflux of flying staff out of the public sector Air-lines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) As a result of employment by private airlines, 146 pilots (co-pilots and commanders) left from the Indian Airlines during the period 1992-94. No pilot has resigned from Indian Airlines so far in 1995. Air India has not experienced large scale resignation of pilots.

(c) Steps taken to meet the situation include:—

1. Indian Airlines has increased the notice period for resignation from 1 month to 6 months, and the provision for salary in lieu of notice period has been withdrawn.

2. DGCA has issued instructions that operators can employ only such pilots who have obtained No-objection certificate from their previous employer.

3. Indian Airlines has increased the value of the bond from Rs. 35,000 to Rs. 10 lakhs.

4. An understanding has been reached with foreign airlines not to employ Indian Airlines pilots without consulting the management.

5. Productivity linked agreements have been entered into with pilots.

6. The number of Examiners, instructors and check pilots has been increased for accelerating the training of pilots.

7. Retired pilots have been appointed on contract basis.

8. Payment of allowances on the rates applicable to Air India Pilots, to Indian Airlines Pilots for operating international flights.

बांका जिले में दूरदर्शन केन्द्र

*216. श्री जनार्दन यादव: क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार बिहार के बांका जिले में दूरदर्शन केन्द्र स्थापित करने का विचार रखती है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसे कब तक स्थापित किये जाने की संभावना है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री के. पी. सिंह देव): (क) वर्तमान में ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) बांका जिले के भाग कटिहार में कार्य कर रहे उच्च शक्ति टी.वी. ट्रांसमीटर (उ.श.ट्रा.) के टी. वी. कवरेज क्षेत्र में आते हैं। अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ, बिहार में देवगढ़ में एक उच्च शक्ति टी. वी. ट्रांसमीटर भी स्थापित किए जाने के लिए परिकल्पित है। इस ट्रांसमीटर के चालू हो जाने पर बांका जिले में टी. वी. कवरेज में और अधिक सुधार होने की आशा है।